



#6/8/02
01-15-02

Docket No. 55225

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: N. Franano

SERIAL NO.: 09/669,051

GROUP: 1651

FILED: September 9, 2000

EXAMINER: K. Srivastava

FOR: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR OPENING OBSTRUCTED
BIOLOGICAL CONDUITS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

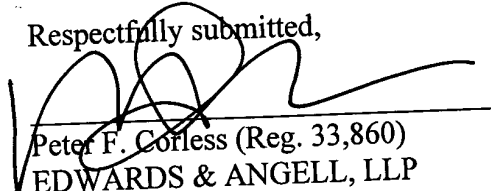
Applicant is in receipt of the Restriction Requirement dated September 21, 2001.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement. In particular, it is believed that multiple groups can be searched and examined together without excessive burden. More specifically, it is believed that Groups I, II and V can be searched and examined together. Indeed, Groups I and V have overlapping classification at both the Class and Subclass levels.

In any event, to provide a complete response, Applicant elects Group I. As a species, Applicant elects artery. In Group I, claims 1 through 12 read on that species.

Early consideration and allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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